

Message Text

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PAGE 01 CAPE T 01085 310907Z
ACTION AF-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 IO-13 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05
H-01 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 PA-01 SP-02 SS-15
NSCE-00 SSO-00 ICAE-00 INRE-00 HA-05 OMB-01
TRSE-00 /079 W

-----019639 310913Z /17

O R 310818T MAY 78
FM AMEMBASSY CAPE TOWN
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 7375
USMISSION USUN NEW YORK IMMEDIATE
INFO AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM
AMEMBASSY GABORONE
AMCONSUL JOHANNESBURG
AMEMBASSY LAGOS
AMEMBASSY LILONGWE
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY LUSAKA
AMEMBASSY MAPUTO
AMEMBASSY PRETORIA

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E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: PDEV, RH, SF
SUBJ: RHODESIA: VORSTER'S COMMENTS

REF: STATE 136173 (NOTAL)

1. SUMMARY: PRIME MINISTER VORSTER HAS PUBLICLY CALLED
ON THE US AND UK TO DROP SANCTIONS AGAINST RHODESIA,
BUILD ON THE INTERNAL SETTLEMENT AND ENCOURAGE NKOMO TO
JOIN IT. VORSTER'S REMARKS CONSTITUTE THE SAG'S MOST
EXTENSIVE HIGH-LEVEL ENDORSEMENT OF THE INTERNAL
SETTLEMENT TO DATE. IT FOLLOWS IAN SMITH'S MAY 25
MEETING WITH VORSTER IN CAPE TOWN AND SMITH'S SUBSEQUENT
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STATEMENT THAT HE WOULD BE OUT OF POLITICS BY THE END
OF THE YEAR (PRETORIA 3045). ENS DUMMARY.

2. FOLLOWING IS THE TEXT OF A MAY 29 CAPE TIMES
REPORT OF VORSTER'S REMARKS ON RHODESIA IN A SPEECH OVER
THE WEEKEND AT GRAAF-RIENET:

QUOTE THE PRIMEMINISTER, MR. VORSTER, CALLED ON THE BRITISH AND UNITED STATES GOVERNMENTS TO DROP SANCTIONS AGAINST RHODESIA AND TO BUILD ON THE FOUNDATIONS OF THE NEW INTERIM GOVERNMENT HERE.

QUOTE ADDRESSING A PUBLIC MEETING HERE AT THE WEEKEND, HE SAID THAT BRITAIN AND THE US, IF THEY HAD ANY INFLUENCE WITH THE PATRIOTIC FRONT LEADER MR. JOHUA NKOMO, SHOULD ENCOURAGE HIM TO JOIN THE INTERIM GOVERNMENT RATHER THAN CONTINUE WITH THEIR OWN NON-VIABLE SETTLEMENT PROPOSALS.

QUOTE MR. VORSTER SAID HE WAS MAKING THE APPEAL AS A MAN WHO HAD WORKED HARD FOR PEACE IN AFRICA AND THE SOUTHERN AFRICAN SUBCONTINENT.

QUOTE IT WAS THE SO-CALLED "FRONTLINE" PRESIDENTS, AND NOT MR. IAN SMITH, THE PRIME MINISTER, WHO SHOT DOWN THE AGREEMENT REACHED IN 1976 WITH THE FORMER US SECRETARY OF STATE, DR. HENRY KISSINGER.

QUOTE RHODESIA HAD NOW FORMED AN INTERIM GOVERNMENT AND MR. VORSTER SAID HIS IMPRESSION WAS THAT THINGS WERE GOING WELL WITH THE NEW GOVT.

QUOTE INNER QUOTE WE HAVE THE UNFORTUNATE SITUATION WHERE BLACK AND WHITE RHODESIANS HAVE AGREED TO SOLVE THEIR PROBLEMS AND REPRESENT AT LEAST 80 PERCENT OF THE RHODESIAN POPULATION. WHAT THEY HAVE ACHIEVED IS NOT ACCEPTED BY THE BRITISH AND THE AMERICAN GOVERNMENTS, END INNER QUOTE HE SAID.

QUOTE MR. VORSTER SAID BLACK AND WHITE RHODESIAN LEADERS HAD TOLD HIM THEY WERE PREPARED TO WORK WITH LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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MR. NKOMO, AND TO ACCOMMODATE HIM IN THE INTERIM GOVERNMENT AND THE COUNCIL OF MINISTERS, IF HE WERE TO RETURN IN PEACE AND ABJURE VIOLENCE.

QUOTE INNER QUOTE ON BEHALF OF SOUTHERN AFRICA, I APPEAL TO THE BRITISH AND AMERICAN GOVERNMENTS: WHY DO YOU NOT COOPERATE WITH THOSE RHODESIANS WHO WANT PEACE? WHY DO YOU NOT ABANDON YOUR OWN SCHEMES WHICH THESE PEOPLE SAY ARE NOT VIABLE? WHY DO YOU NOT BUILD ON THE FOUNDATIONS THESE PEOPLE HAVE LAID? WHY, IF YOU HAVE INFLUENCE WITH MR. NKOMO, DO YOU NOT TRY TO BRING HIM WITHIN THE RANKS OF THOSE SEEKING PEACE IN RHODESIA? WHY DO YOU NOT LIFT SANCTIONS AGAINST RHODESIA TO THE BENEFIT OF BLACK AND WHITE RHODESIANS AND THE SUBCONTINENT OF SOUTHERN AFRICA? END INNER QUOTE UNQUOTE.

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NNN

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*** Current Classification *** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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